



Spring 2003 Edition

Volume 2, Issue 1

# RSPA RESULTS...

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
RESEARCH AND SPECIAL PROGRAMS ADMINISTRATION

## RSPA Leads USCG Transition to Department of Homeland Security

Following Secretary Mineta's leadership for performance and excellence, a RSPA and United States Coast Guard team managed the successful transition of the USCG to the Department of Homeland Security. The transition teams



were led by **Administrator Ellen Engleman** and **Admiral Harvey Johnson**, and consisted of operational and legal representatives from the DOT and USCG.

The team accomplished its mission to smoothly transition a fully functional USCG, while ensuring no degradation of either DOT or USCG operational capabilities during or after the transition.

DOT's staff included **Donna O'Berry** and **David Clark** of RSPA, **Jane DeCell** of the General Counsel's Office, and **Matthew Mueda** from NHTSA. A transition war room was established in RSPA's conference room, and a web-based data management system was used to

track the team's progress.

The team worked for six weeks to review over 160 inventory items that would be affected by the USCG's transfer to DHS.

With long hours and professional dedication, all deadlines were met.



Donna O'Berry, David Clark, Administrator Ellen Engleman, Matt Mueda and Jane DeCell proudly show the final transition legal documents.

### Inside RSPA RESULTS...

From the Desk of the Administrator	2
RSPA In Action	3
Pipeline Safety	4
Emergency Transportation	5
Hazardous Materials Safety	6
Innovation, Research & Education	7
RSPA's Volpe Transportation Center	8
Transportation Safety Institute	9
Chief Counsel and Civil Rights	10
Management and Administration	11
Team RSPA	12

## President Bush Appoints RSPA Administrator to Chairman of the NTSB

President George W. Bush asked Administrator Ellen Engleman to serve again in his Administration as the Chairman of the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB). The Senate confirmed Miss Engleman for a two-year term as chairman and a five year term as a member of



the NTSB.

"It is an honor and a privilege to be nominated by the President for a second position within the Administration, and I look forward to working with the Department of Transportation to ensure transportation safety in every mode," said Engleman.

Chairman Engleman is scheduled to begin her duties at the NTSB on March 24, 2003.



Read about RSPA's  
20th Annual Awards  
Ceremony on page 3!

## The Administrator's Office

### From the Desk of the Administrator...



Administrator Ellen G. Engleman

When I came to RSPA we established three goals: Focus on developing the "Research" at RSPA, clean up our "Record," and achieve "Recognition" for outstanding performance. During the last 18 months, RSPA has consistently achieved one impressive result after another. RSPA's *outstanding performance* responded to the emergency needs of the nation and DOT during, and after, the tragic events of 9-11. I am proud that the RSPA team provided Secretary Mineta, and the nation, vital support.

We successfully upgraded the communications capabilities of the Crisis Management Center in record time while under an extremely limited budget. We're "cleaning the RSPA record." We have great improvement in responding to recommendations and implementing our regulatory and enforcement responsibilities.

Our "Research" capabilities are expanding. OPS has successfully developed a new research program, supported reauthorization of the Pipeline Safety Act and continued to implement our Integrity Management Program for inspections. OHMS has been a leader in developing new safety guidelines and working with the Department of Homeland Security to focus on security issues. And the Transportation Safety Institute continues to break records in delivering outstanding training programs while increasing management efficiency. "RSPAbility" gave us the privilege and responsibility to successfully manage the U.S. Coast Guard's transition to the Department of Homeland Security. Once again, we set our goals, met our deadlines and focused on RESULTS.

As I leave RSPA to assume my new position as Chairman of the National Transportation Safety Board, I thank you all for the privilege to serve with you on the RSPA TEAM. I am proud to have been a part of the RSPA family and wish each of you my warmest regards. *Please remember these three things: "There is no 'I' in TEAM; Focus on 'Performance and Results' and that it is a 'Privilege to Serve.'"*

### From the Desk of the Acting Administrator...

When I accepted the position of Deputy Administrator of RSPA, I knew that it would be as part of a fast-paced and dynamic organization. Little did I know that I would transition to be the "Acting" Administrator in so short a time. Congratulations to Administrator Engleman on her confirmation as the new Chairman of the NTSB. It is an honor well deserved.

I inherit the helm of an exciting and well-managed DOT administration. I will continue the momentum of program efforts in each of the offices, and institute course directions as needed. I share the Administrator's philosophy when it comes to vision and teamwork. At my first interview with the Administrator, she impressed me when I saw the plaque on her desk that said, "Where there is no vision, the people perish." I know from experience that success requires a clear, compelling vision, teaching responsibility, supporting your team, holding them accountable and resolving conflicts.

Today RSPA has a new, well-earned respect. Whenever I've asked the Administrator what message is important to her, it's always been "There's no 'I' in team!" The reason RSPA has been entrusted with some of the most significant jobs in DOT history is because of this team spirit and respect. As I assume the responsibilities of Acting Administrator, I am confident that RSPA will continue to meet all of its goals and play an important role in DOT and the nation.



Acting Administrator Sam Bonasso

# RSPA in ACTION

## RSPA Celebrates Performance at 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Administrator's Awards Ceremony

On January 24, Administrator Engleman saluted RSPA for outstanding performance at the 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Administrator's Awards Ceremony. In a congratulatory letter Secretary Mineta wrote, "In an extraordinary year, RSPA delivered extraordinary results."

### **SUPERIOR ACHIEVEMENT AWARD**

John Hess and Marie Savoy

### **DCC Hazmat Enforcement Team**

Edward Bonekemper, Karin Christian, Frazer Hilder, Robert Kern, Nancy Machado, Gail Mayhew, Anil Mehta, Donna O'Berry, Regina Raiford, and Thomas Seymour



The DCC Hazmat Enforcement Team

### **Executive Secretariat Team**

Carole Olson and Ola Parsons

### **GPS Vulnerability Assessment Team**

James Carroll, Michael Geyer, John Kraemer and Karen Van Dyke

### **IT Training Team**

Jack Albright, Edward Brigham, Barbara Mulcahy, and Paul Robinson

### **Pipeline Operator Qualification Team**

Richard Sanders, Warren Miller, Christopher McLaren, Lynnard Tessner, John Haddow, and Paul Sanchez

### **Pipeline Reauthorization Team**

Barbara Betsock, Mary Crouter, Stacey Gerard, Tom Herlihy, Debbie Hinz, Elaine Joost, Pat Klinger, Lindy Knapp, Susan McColley, and Sean O'Hollaren

### **Property Management Team**

Jack Albright, Jesse Dobbs, Ron Martin, Aurea Ortiz, Marie Savoy, Bevelyn Whitfield, and John Williams

### **NO "I" IN TEAM AWARD**

Mimi Betz, Linda Booth, Rich Brancato, Deidre Breihaupt, John Hess, Lisa Kleiner, Anil Mehta, Lloyd Milburn, Donna O'Berry, Margaret Roberts, Paul Robinson, Jose Rufino, Dave Sargent, Tom Scott, Paul Stieger, and Lola Ward

### **PEER AWARDS**

Reggie Dunn, Ruben Ingram, Linda King, Terri Quigley, Amy Stearns, Gopala Vinjamuri, and Bernadyne Williams

### **PEER AWARD OF THE YEAR**

Reggie Dunn



### **RSPA APPRECIATION AWARD**

Jackie Goff, Miguel Gonzales, Lana Hurdle, John Jacob, Reggie Jones, Linda Lawson, Barbara Lucas, and James Usual

### **INDIVIDUAL EAGLE AWARD**

Frank Tupper and Lola Ward



The CMC Enhanced Communications Team earned RSPA's highest award, The Team Eagle Award.

### **SPECIAL**

### **RECOGNITION**

Susan Anderson

### **RSPA FAMILY**

### **TEAM AWARDS**

RSPA Family Appreciation Day

RSPA Family Holiday Event



The RSPA Family Appreciation Day Team

### **CMC Enhanced Communications**

Jack Albright, Janet Benini, Sam Bonasso, Rich Brancato, Brian Carney, Jeffrey Cavanaugh, David Clark, Jesse Dobbs, Suzette Edwards, John Hess, Gale Hines, James Jones, Tom Kiddy, Dave Lehman, Steve Maguire, Bill Medigovich, Keith O'Neil, Aurea Ortiz, Stan Pryga, Tom Sachs, Dave Sargent, Marie Savoy, Tom Scott, Paul Stieger, James Taylor, Jerre Thomas, Lola Ward, Bevelyn



## Pipeline Safety

### RSPA Holds Public Meeting in Bellevue, WA on Pipeline Communication Challenges

On January 29, RSPA's OPS and Washington State Utilities and Transportation Committee co-sponsored a public meeting on pipeline communications at the Bellevue Community College in Bellevue, WA. The meeting agenda included panel discussion on current RSPA OPS initiatives, the development of American Petroleum Institute Recommended Practice 1162, integrity management communications and pipeline performance metrics. These communication efforts are intended to be an open forum for the exchange of information on pipeline safety between RSPA's OPS, representatives from various communities, environmental organizations, first responders, city/county/state government and pipeline companies.

"RSPA has made great strides in advancing several critical pipeline rulemakings in integrity management, meeting Congressional mandates and NTSB recommendations, and enforcing pipeline safety regulations," said RSPA Administrator Ellen G. Engleman. "It is time this message was brought to the people of the State of Washington."

- OPS hosted a public meeting March 14 in Washington, DC to explain recent pipeline integrity legislation and proposed regulations, including the definition of High Consequence Areas.
- On January 22, OPS conducted a one-day public meeting to discuss pipeline operator personnel qualifications (OQ) and the pipeline industry's progress in implementing the OQ rule for gas and hazardous liquid pipelines. Roughly 500-600 representatives from Federal and State agencies, pipeline industry and the public were in attendance to evaluate the adequacy of OQ programs.
- On January 28, OPS published a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) for Gas Transmission Pipeline Integrity Management in High Consequence Areas in the Federal Register. The NPRM proposes to establish a rule requiring operators to develop integrity management programs for gas transmission pipelines.

### In the Pipeline

### RSPA OPS' R&D Advances Digital Mapping of Buried Pipelines with a Dual Array System

As part of a new government-industry research and development partnership, OPS worked with the private sector to develop a non-invasive system for detecting, mapping, and inspecting ferrous and some plastic pipelines. A prototype sensor array provided encouraging results in locating simulated pipelines. The early achievements of this project clear technology hurdles for future success of the overall research effort.

"Technology is a key element in improving the safety and reliability of the growing pipeline infrastructure that is critical to our economy and way of life," said Associate Administrator **Stacey Gerard**.

Benefits to OPS and the pipeline industry are the ability to accurately and permanently map existing infrastructure, including utilities for which no records exist. In addition, the information collected will improve operators' knowledge of their pipeline systems and adjacent infrastructure, thereby improving safety for new construction during directional drilling and excavation projects. **Sam Hall** is OPS' Contracting Officer Technical Representative for the project.



OPS's Sam Hall

## Emergency Transportation

### The CMC Leads the DOT Response to Threat Level Change

When the Homeland Security threat level escalated to Orange on Feb. 7, the Crisis Management Center (CMC) played a critical role to ensure that DOT operating administrations and their industry partners were ready.

The CMC worked quickly with the operating administrations to disseminate the Transportation Security Information Report, prepared by DOT's Intelligence and Security Office. The transportation industry responded, executing plans that involved over 100 separate actions to improve security. Their reports of actions to the operating administrations were compiled into a report and graphic display for DOT leadership and the White House.

Many actions were immediately implemented, while others continued into the night. The result was improved security for the traveling public, and efficient reporting of transportation actions to the Department of Homeland Security and the President.



Administrator Engleman and OET Acting Director Janet Benini (right) discuss capabilities in the Crisis Management Center.

### OET Monitors Civil Reserve Air Fleet Activation

Many troops and their equipment are deploying to the Persian Gulf region under a program managed by a partnership of RSPA, the Department of Defense and the airline industry.

The Civil Reserve Air Fleet (CRAF) program enables the industry to contribute commercial aircraft to supplement DOD's military airlift capacity. RSPA's OET manages the program. Howard Edwards, RSPA's principal point of contact for the program, maintains the allocations

on a monthly basis, enabling the CRAF's readiness to support national emergencies.

CRAF was activated on Feb. 8, giving the DOD's U.S. Transportation Command (USTRANSCOM) 47 passenger and 31 wide-body cargo aircraft to move troops and equipment to the Persian Gulf area.

This activation is termed Stage I, the lowest level of a three-stage activation program that enables the USTRANSCOM

commander, General John W. Handy, USAF, to tailor an airlift force to meet military needs.

The CRAF allocations and additional information on the program may be found on the RSPA Web site.



OET's Howard Edwards

### CMC Responds to War Preparations

DOT's Crisis Management Center has flexed to respond to the heightened security environment. Following the President's remarks to the nation on March 17 in preparation for war with Iraq, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) raised the national threat level to High, or Level Orange. The DHS, in conjunction with numerous departments of the federal government has begun implementing increased protective measures under a comprehensive national plan.

RSPA's acting Director of the Office of Emergency Transportation, **Janet Benini** said, "the CMC has responded to the heightened security level by increasing its efforts in collecting transportation-related information and feeding this to DOT's modal administrations, the Office of the Secretary and the White House. We are also running personnel contact exercises and tracking closely the locations of key DOT personnel."

## Hazardous Materials Safety

### President Requests New Resources to Address SNF Transportation Issues

The President's budget requests Congress approve an increase of \$1 million to expand RSPA's capacities in planning, analysis and safety oversight of commercially-generated nuclear waste for FY 2004. The additional funds will cover the costs of eight new staff positions and increased research and development.

Shipments of nuclear waste, including spent nuclear fuel (SNF) and high level radioactive waste (HLW), are expected to increase steadily over the next ten years. The national repository at Yucca Mountain is expected to come on line in 2010, resulting in an additional 300 to 400 radioactive shipments per year.

### RSPA Works on Hydrogen Fuel Transportation Safety

The President recently identified hydrogen-generated power as a key part of his \$1.2B Hydrogen Fuel Initiative. In order for hydrogen to take its place in the national energy economy, it must be moved safely to its ultimate user. RPSA's OHMS has a critical role in developing vehicles fueled by hydrogen, as well as the hydrogen delivery infrastructure through existing regulations and by evaluating the new technology necessary to handle this material safely and economically. RSPA Administrator Engleman and NHTSA Administrator Runge cosigned a letter to the DOE to confirm DOT's commitment to the shared goal of advancing hydrogen technologies and infrastructure development. DOT has formed an internal working group on hydrogen fuel cell technologies under RSPA's direction.

RSPA has issued one exemption for a hydrogen fuel cell container and is currently reviewing lightweight composite packaging designs for the transportation of compressed hydrogen.



Fuel cell-powered vehicles are environmentally sound.

### RSPA Works to Incorporate Security Requirements Internationally



Shane Kelley, Deputy Associate Administrator Frits Wybenga, and Bob Richard are part of the "Hazmat International Team."

Post 9/11, RSPA has been working with international government agencies and organizations to amend hazmat regulations in an attempt to prevent and suppress terrorist acts by the intentional misuse of hazmat in transportation.

The adoption of the security requirements in the UN Model Regulations was facilitated by recommendations developed by RSPA and submitted to the G8 countries for consideration. The G8 countries subsequently issued a recommendation that stated: *"Develop, in the UN and other relevant international organizations, an effective and proportionate security regime for the overland transportation and distribution of hazardous cargoes which present potentially significant security risks, with initial consultation this year."*

RSPA worked in collaboration with many countries through a correspondence working group to develop the security requirements that were adopted in the UN Model Regulations. RSPA represents the United States at the UN Sub-Committee meetings.



## RSPA Recognizes Outstanding Students of the Year

The 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Outstanding Student of the Year Awards ceremony took place during the Transportation Research Board 82<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting in Washington, DC in January. RSPA manages the University Transportation Center (UTC) program for DOT. For the past 11 years, DOT has honored the most outstanding student from each participating UTC for his or her achievements and promise for future contributions to the transportation field. In the spirit of intermodalism, the ceremony also included an awardee from the FAA's Air Transportation Centers of Excellence.

"These students are extraordinary, and they are the future of transportation technology," said Administrator Engleman. "We are very proud that our program has fostered and encouraged them to make such excellent contributions, and we hope they will pursue transportation careers."

Students of the Year are selected based upon their accomplishments in such areas as technical merit and research, academic performance, professionalism and leadership. Each student received a certificate presented by Administrator Engleman and FHWA Deputy Administrator **J. Richard Capka**, as well as \$1,000 from his or her UTC.



Pictured: Student awardees from USDOT's UTC Program at the 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Outstanding Student of the Year Awards ceremony January 13, 2003. With the students are (far left) FHWA Deputy Administrator J. Richard Capka, and (far right) RSPA Administrator Ellen G. Engleman.

## RSPA Supports Multimodal Cargo Container Transportation Security

On February 4, RSPA's Office of Innovation, Research and Education chaired a panel of interagency experts to evaluate approximately 35 white paper responses submitted by service providers and industry to its BAA on cargo container safety and security. The proposals presented concepts for enhancing the security of container transportation systems and new approaches and products for developing the "Container of the Future." Panel members were from the Departments of Energy and Defense, U.S. Customs, Transportation Security Administration, Office of the Secretary of Transportation, and the DOT's Office of Intermodalism.

## UTCs In Action at The Transportation Research Board Showcase Exhibit

The UTC program represented one of the many faces of RSPA at the 82<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting of the Transportation Research Board. DIR staffed an exhibit booth that provided information on the research, education and technology transfer activities of the 33 UTCs. The multimodal program supports internationally recognized centers of excellence, fully integrated within institutions of higher learning, that serve as a source of leaders prepared to meet the nation's need for safe, efficient and environmentally sound movement of people and goods.



RSPA attendees included Robin Kline, Deputy Administrator Sam Bonasso, Judy Yahoodik, and Amy Stearns.

## RSPA's Volpe Center

### Volpe Participates in Fuel Cell Standards Committee

On February 18, RSPA's Volpe Center staff participated in the Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE) Fuel Cell safety working group and Fuel Cell Standards Committee meeting in Troy, Mich. The working group recently completed the vehicle safety document SAE J2578, and is continuing with the development of J2579 – "Recommended Practice for Fuel Systems in Fuel Cell and Other Hydrogen Fueled Vehicles."

### RSPA Employee Named to Independent Panel on Space Shuttle Disaster

**Dr. James Hallock**, of RSPA's Volpe Center was named to the *Columbia* Accident Investigation Board. He has been a member of the NASA Space Shuttle Program review board since 1996. The Board was established by the NASA Administrator to provide rapid response when a shuttle accident occurs. Dr. Hallock earned several degrees in physics from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) before joining the NASA Electronics Research Center in 1966.

In 1970, Dr. Hallock joined Volpe and has since worked on many aviation safety related programs.



Dr. Hallock in the "White Room." This is where astronauts enter a shuttle.

### Volpe Directs Multilateration Flight Testing in Gulf of Mexico

RSPA made progress in improving flight safety through new aircraft surveillance methods now being tested in Louisiana. In January, RSPA's Volpe Center staff directed flight test efforts over the Gulf of Mexico to evaluate advances of the NASA Ames-funded Helicopter In-flight Tracking System (HITS) Phase I project.

RSPA's Volpe Center serves as the NASA agent to manage the HITS project and to perform an independent and comprehensive evaluation of the system. Volpe engineers directed the offshore flight-testing from Lafayette Regional Airport, Lafayette, LA.

### Volpe Staff Member Named Prestigious ION Fellow

RSPA Volpe Center employee **Karen Van Dyke** was named a Fellow of the Institute of Navigation (ION). This honor is granted to those who have made distinguished and sustained professional contributions to the advancement of technology, management, practice and teaching of the arts and sciences of navigation. Ms. Van Dyke was awarded ION's Early Career Achievement Award in April 2002, and served as the President of the ION from 2000-2001. She is a member of the technical staff in the Center for Navigation at the Volpe Center. Ms. Van Dyke helped conduct a DOT study to identify and analyze GPS vulnerabilities and interference mitigation techniques for all modes of transportation. She has published many papers on GPS and co-authored the book, "Understanding GPS: Principles and Applications."



Karen Van Dyke



## Transportation Safety Institute

### TSI's Aviation Division Goes "Down Under"

TSI's Aviation Safety Division provided key training halfway around the world in Melbourne, Australia. In concert with Aerostructures, an Australian Defense Firm, TSI staff members **Chris Lawrence**, **Andy McMin**, and **Ray Wall** conducted a 5-day course in Basic Aircraft Accident Investigation for 20 Australian Industry and Military Aircraft Accident Investigators. The course covered investigation conduct and management, investigation concepts of aircraft structures/power plants, as well as investigation tips and techniques associated with typical aircraft accident investigations.



Australian Industry and Military Aircraft Accident Investigators participate in TSI course

### TSI Hosts Chinese Dignitaries



TSI and Chinese representatives meet to discuss aviation training programs.

TSI's Aviation Safety Division hosted five dignitaries from the Civil Aviation Management Institute of China (CAMIC). The purpose of the visit was to explore opportunities for aviation training in China.

Established in 1982, the CAMIC consists of four departments: Social Science, Economic Management, Engineering Management and Foreign Language. CAMIC upholds the principle of maintaining a balance between teaching and research. Fourteen research and consultant divisions have been established to explore the integration of the latest science and technology with civil aviation practice.

In order to maintain state-of-the-art capability, the CAMIC plans to utilize the information received from TSI to expand their training programs in aviation accident investigation, aviation safety, flight inspection, flight procedures and charting.

### TSI Provides Pipeline Safety Hands-On Training

As part of TSI's *Safety Evaluation of Breakout Tanks* training, federal and state pipeline safety inspectors recently conducted a facilitated inspection of a pipeline operator in Oklahoma City, OK. The course in *Breakout Tanks* fulfills the requirements of the Federal Pipeline Safety Act and subsequent congressional mandates. Also, the training helps ensure that federal and state pipeline safety inspectors conduct their inspection activities in a consistent and effective manner using the latest technology available.

Inspectors benefited by understanding compliance procedures associated with Part 195 of the Title 49, Code of Federal Regulations, and by comparing responsibilities with those of the Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Coast Guard.



Students inspecting critical areas on breakout tanks

## Civil Rights / Chief Counsel

### Pipeline Safety Enforcement Doubled in 2002

In 2002, the DCC Pipeline Safety Enforcement Team doubled their enforcement effectiveness and efficiency. Actions taken by the Pipeline Safety team include such complex matters as issuing a Corrective Action Order that shuts down a pipeline, and presiding over a hearing to resolve a contested Notice of Probable Violation. At the start of calendar year 2002, the Pipeline Safety team set a goal of completing administrative actions on seven enforcement cases per month, which would have meant a productivity increase of 22 percent. As shown in the following table, in 2002 the team more than doubled its total production and achieved increases in every category of administrative action.



Administrator Engleman, Barbara Betsock, Debbie Hinz, Pat Klinger, Stacey Gerard and Elaine Joost of the Pipeline Safety Team.

	2001	2002	INCREASE
Corrective Action Orders/Notices	9	11	22 %
Other Final Orders	38	39	3 %
Letters closing cases	5	15	200 %
Hearings	12	24	100 %
Notices of Proposed Violation	5	59	1008 %
All Enforcement Actions	69	144	109 %

### RSPA Supports African American Heritage Month Observances

RSPA partnered with other DOT civil rights teams to produce two inspiring African American Heritage events. **Rear Admiral Stephen Rochon**, Director of DOT's Office of Intelligence and Security led an observance chronicling the lifesaving efforts of the surfmen of Pea Island Lifesaving Station, North Carolina. The Pea Island lifesavers were the only all-Black crew in the U.S. Lifesaving Service. RSPA's **Jeffrey Cavanaugh** delivered the closing remarks.

The second African American Heritage event featured Reverend Billy Kyles, an eyewitness to the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and only living person to spend the last hour with Dr. King.



Jeffrey Cavanaugh delivered the closing remarks.

### DCC Lends Major Support to DOT/USCG Transition Team

DCC provided full team coverage to support the DOT/USCG Transition Team. In addition to Team Leader **Donna O'Berry**, DCC attorneys **Karin Christian, Astrid Lopez-Goldberg, Bob Kern, Sherri Pappas, Michelle Bouziane, Paul Sanchez, and Ahren Tryon** performed many critical functions to clarify relevant legal authorities, prevailing policies, and future framework for implementing those authorities in a coordinated, consistent and predictable manner. They analyzed issues, drafted briefing papers, and helped to assemble briefing materials. They also negotiated, drafted, reviewed and cleared multiple multiparty documents, including Memoranda of Agreement. Failure to execute these agreements before the March 1 transfer date would have created serious uncertainties with respect to critical aspects of the Department's transportation safety and security missions. The DCC attorneys completed all required tasks within extremely tight deadlines.

## Management and Administration

### RSPA's Budget Request Reflects 8% Increase

RSPA's request of \$132 million in the 2004 budget is an increase of \$9.6 million, or 8 percent, from 2003. RSPA's Research and Technology budget will help promote development of a safe hydrogen fuels infrastructure in support of the President's new hydrogen fuel cell initiative.

The 2004 budget increase includes an additional \$1.9 million for the HazMat Safety Program to enforce regulations, and provide for pro-active participation in the safety oversight of containment systems used to ship spent nuclear fuel and high-level radioactive waste to Yucca Mountain, Nevada.

OET would see \$4 million. As a result of 9-11, the additional funding would ensure DOT's timely communication and immediate response to transportation disasters through the Crisis Management Center.

OPS would obtain a \$3.2 million, or 5 percent, increase in an effort to hold down serious pipeline incidents and reduce hazardous liquids spills.



RSPA Budget Team members Paul Stieger (DPP) and Tim Klein (DIR) contributed to the proposed FY04 budget

### RSPA Marches Towards Green on the Competitive Sourcing Scorecard



Keith O'Neill and Lola Ward meet to discuss the President's Management Agenda Goals.

One of the President's Management Agenda items requires the federal government to compete 15 percent of its workforce positions by September 30, 2003. Through the hard work of **Lola Ward**, Director of Contracts and Procurement, and **Keith O'Neill**, RSPA's grade moved to "Yellow" in August 2002, and continues on target to meet its FY 2003 milestones.

The FAIR Act requires federal agencies to annually review its workforce and code each position as either "Inherently Governmental" or "Commercial". The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) released DOT's 2002 Federal Agencies Inventory Reform (FAIR) Act inventory on February 6, 2003. It can be viewed at the following web address: [www.dot.gov/ost/m60/fairact](http://www.dot.gov/ost/m60/fairact).

RSPA has initiated the process to complete its 2003 FAIR Act Inventory. OMB is revising Circular A-76 which will involve the FAIR Act Inventory process. The Office of the Secretary (OST) has requested that each modal administration provide their initial inventories by March 31, 2003.

### RSPA's Launches Web E-Mail

RSPA now offers Microsoft Web Outlook for remote access to the RSPA email system, allowing employees access to their e-mail, calendar, and contacts from any computer with Internet access. Web Outlook can be accessed by following <http://webmail.rspa.dot.gov>. A RSPA Announcement will formally publicize the new service and will include a user guide. Congratulations to **Marie Savoy** and **Jack Albright** for spearheading this inexpensive and innovative project.

### RSPA Upgrades PRISM

RSPA recently purchased PRISM Web – an upgrade to RSPA's current automated procurement system. This will further automate RSPA's procurement process resulting in improved customer service. It constitutes a major milestone in e-procurement for the President's e-Government agenda. RSPA's DMA expects this new system to be installed, tested and running before the end of the fiscal year.



U.S. Department of Transportation  
Research and Special Programs Administration

G. J. Delcambre, Editor-in-Chief

Barbara Capers, Co-Editor

David M. Clark, Co-Editor

Office of the Administrator  
Suite 8410  
Phone: 202-366-4433  
Fax: 202-366-3666

Contact **RSPA RESULTS** at [rspa.results@rspa.dot.gov](mailto:rspa.results@rspa.dot.gov)

**RSPA...**

**Where Preparation Equals Performance,  
And Performance Equals **RSPA RESULTS!****

## Team RSPA Welcomes:

John Boiney (Volpe)  
Senetra Buie (DCC)  
Donna Burke (Volpe)  
Pei Chen (Volpe)  
Jillian Cheng (Volpe)  
Philip Chin (Volpe)  
Kimbra Davis (DPS)  
Zachary Fay (Volpe)  
Kevin Gay (Volpe)

James Williams (DHM)  
Robert Glass (Volpe)  
Jilliane Glover (Volpe)  
Heidi Howarth (Volpe)  
Frederick Lian (Volpe)  
Michael Raymond (Volpe)  
Hans Scott (Volpe)  
Gloria Tome (Volpe)  
Vita Waters (Volpe)

## Administrator Pre-Dedicates CMC Reception Area to Margaret Roberts

Administrator Ellen Engleman was joined by RSPA's Senior Staff and the Office of Emergency Transportation to pre-dedicate the reception area of the enhanced Crisis Management Center to **Margaret Roberts**. Margaret wasn't only a valuable employee – Margaret was a friend to many in RSPA. She worked side-by-side with us during September 11<sup>th</sup> and the days that followed.

"I admired her strength and her courage," said Engleman. "She was someone that we all relied upon and loved. Margaret was an inspiration to me and many others in the RSPA family."

A formal RSPA reception will be held at a later date when the official plaque is ready to be unveiled.

## RSPA Team Members Making A Difference

The DOT/RSPA educational partnerships with Hine Junior High School and Greenleaf Senior Citizens Center in the District of Columbia are alive and well. These partnerships are an outcome of a 1983 Presidential Executive Order that established the Volunteer Committee and Partnership in Education Programs.

RSPA employees **Sherri Papas, Marvin Fell, and Bernardyne "Bernie" Williams** serve as tutors for students of Hine Junior High School. "Bernie" is also RSPA's representative to DOT Volunteer Committee and assists with its annual Combined Federal Campaign kickoff, Spring Fund-raising event, and with monthly celebration activities for the Greenleaf Center.

This year's Valentine's Day celebration at the Greenleaf Center resulted in a festive, decorative event filled with plenty of smiles, love, music, and warm memories for over 95 seniors.

A Ms. Valentine and Mr. Valentine were selected and treated to gift bags. The seniors had a most enjoyable day due to the generosity and kindness of the RSPA employees.

The DOT Volunteer Committee is always looking for people to assist with activities. You can contact "Bernie" Williams at (202) 366-2416 for further information.



"Bernie" Williams (right) at the Valentine's Day Celebration.